

REMARKS

New claim 20 has been added and recites no new matter. Support for new claim 20, may be located throughout the specification, for example, at page 3, lines 28-31, of the specification. Claims 12-20 are currently pending in the application.

On page 4 of the Office Action dated January 12, 2006, claims 12-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,668,322, issued to Wood *et al.* (hereinafter Wood).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 12 is patentable over Wood, as Wood fails to disclose, "periodically validating access privileges based on contractual relationship information."

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that, "[b]ased on what trust level requirement an application has, an existing login credential can be used, or a new login credential must be created which meets the trust level requirement (column 5 lines 46-57). This trust level to user mapping is viewed as a 'contractual relationship.'" See Office Action pages 2-3 [sic].

Applicants respectfully submit that the trust level to user mapping is not a contractual relationship, as a contract does not exist between a trust level and a user. Assuming *arguendo* that a relationship exists between a trust level and a user, the "relationship," however, is not a *contractual* relationship.

Moreover, Wood does not *validate* access privileges. Rather, Wood simply authenticates login credentials. The authentication is performed by a standard procedure of comparing the provided credentials with credentials already stored. See Wood, column 5, lines 29-45. Therefore, no validating based on contractual relationship information occurs in Wood.

Wood also does not perform periodic validation, as Wood clearly states that the "sign-on" interface is provided for access to enterprise applications and/or resources. See Wood, column 5, lines 29-33. Therefore, Wood performs authentication when initial access to an application or resource is attempted. No *periodic* validation is performed in Wood.

Further still, contrary to the Examiner's assertion that Wood creates a new login credential, Applicants respectfully submit that Wood does not create login credentials. Wood clearly states that the login component 120 obtains login credentials for an entity requesting access to one of the enterprise applications or resources. See Wood, column 5, lines 33-37. Therefore, in Wood, the credentials are simply retrieved from a database to compare the credentials.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 is patentable over Wood. As dependent claims 13-18 depend from independent claim 12, the dependent claims are patentable over Wood for at least the reasons presented for independent claim 12. As claim 19 recites language similar to that of claim 12, claim 19 is also patentable over Wood.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 20 is patentable over Wood, as Wood does not teach, "comparing user login data with contractual information between at least two parties to determine system access privileges; and creating or deleting login data based on said comparing," as recited in claim 20.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

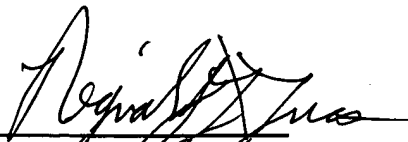
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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